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FROM

State Board of Lunacy.

29 Jul. 1893.

MASSACHUSETTS' CARE

OF

Dependent and Delinquent Children

APRIL, 1893

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PREFACE.

The following papers by the State Board of Lunacy and Charity, by its chiefs of departments and by the Trustees of the State Primary and Reform Schools, will show to what extent the State Charities of Massachusetts have been modified within thirty years by two distinct ideas: —

The first, that family life as a training for the young should, whenever possible, take the place of institution life.

The second, that systematized oversight and care are absolutely essential to children transplanted into families not of their own kith and kin.

The second, the idea of thorough oversight and care for children in families, has since 1869 gained steadily, enlisting not only men, but women; not only salaried agents, but also volunteers. Organized and held in check by the central department, it has made possible the placing out of children who without it must have long remained dependent.

The statistics show that, whereas in 1866 more than two-thirds of the children in care of the State were inside institutions, and in 1876 more than half, in 1892 less than one-third are in institutions, and more than one-half self-supporting in families, the remainder, one-sixth, being at board at less cost than that of maintenance in any institution that is properly officered and not overcrowded.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN. Taken just after commitment to custody of State Board of Lunacy and Charity. (Care of Department of Indoor Poor.)

THE MASSACHUSETTS SYSTEM OF CARING FOR STATE MINOR WARDS.*

BY MRS. ANNE B. RICHARDSON,

MEMBER STATE BOARD OF LUNACY AND CHARITY, LOWELL, MASS.

The plan for the work of child saving — preventive work, or, as it is termed in Massachusetts, "Care of the minor wards of the State" — includes three classes of children,— "neglected children," "dependent children," and "juvenile offenders."

Dependent children are those who are deprived of natural support by reason of the poverty, illness, death, or criminality of their parents, such parents having no "settlement" in any town of the State, and thus becoming a State charge. The meaning of "neglected children" is not quite so obvious, because it is not apparent why they are not included in the "dependent" class. The distinction is this: neglected children are the offspring of parents who *can*, but *do not*, provide suitably for them, and whose vicious lives render them unfit to have the care of them. The term "juvenile offenders" conveys its own meaning.

In the cases of the first two named, "dependent" and "neglected" children, all necessary facts being established, they are placed by the courts in the care of overseers of the poor in the towns where they live, who, if they are found to be of "unsettled" parentage, turn them over to the custody of the State Board of Lunacy and Charity. Any citizen may make complaint in the cases of "neglected" children to the proper court or magistrate. This placing of these two classes of children, exclusive of infants (whose care will be described later), usually results in putting them in the State Primary School. Of the older children, such as are classed as "juvenile offenders," other means are employed and other disposition made of them. "Complaint having been made before court or magistrate, a

*By permission, from the Report of the Committee on the History of Child-saving Work of the Twentieth National Conference of Charities and Correction.

summons is issued to the parents or legal guardians of the boy or girl; and, if there is no such person, the court or magistrate appoints some suitable person to act in behalf of such boy or girl, requiring him or her to appear at a time and place stated in the summons, and show cause why such boy or girl shall not be committed to the Lyman School for Boys or the Industrial School for Girls, respectively." Written notice is sent to "the Board of Lunacy and Charity of the pending of such complaint." An agent of the Board is sent to attend the trial, whose business it is to find all the facts in the case, and with whom the magistrate consults as to the final disposition of the child. In the cases of young children convicted of petty offences, a commitment is made to the "custody of the Board," as it is called, by which body the child is placed in the Primary School, and who, though remaining there under precisely the same conditions as the "dependent" and "neglected" children, has a legal status somewhat differing from that of the latter classes.

In the cases of the juvenile delinquents, commitment is made, if a boy under fifteen years of age, to the Lyman School at Westborough; if a girl under seventeen, to the State Industrial School at Lancaster. They are so placed "during minority." They may, however, instead of being sent to either of these institutions, be placed in the "custody of the Board of Lunacy and Charity," as has been stated of the younger offenders; may be placed "on probation" in their own homes or elsewhere; or "otherwise disposed of, at the discretion of the court or magistrate, in accordance with law."

From the neglected and dependent classes there are taken the infants or children under three years of age, technically known as "foundlings and destitute infants," who receive entirely different care, such as their helpless age requires. All foundlings and all destitute, motherless infants who have no settlements in the cities and towns are cared for directly by the State. Until within fifteen years these infants were, like the older pauper children, sent to the State Almshouse. In 1876 the trustees, in consequence of the great mortality in that institution among these children, and by the advice of the State Board of Lunacy and Charity, refused to receive any infants without their mothers. In 1880 a law was passed by the legislature, providing that all such children should be cared for directly by the State Board. It should be stated here that this high rate of mortality was not in excess of that of any institution where

Infant in care of DEPARTMENT OF OUTDOOR POOR. Taken while on trial for adoption. (Since adopted.)

infants are congregated under like conditions. Since 1880 these infants have been boarded in families, with the best results. This course had an effect to reduce the percentage of deaths from 97 to 50 the first year. The next year this percentage was still further reduced to 30, and since that time has not averaged more than from 14 to 20 per cent.

The present method of providing for these children is as follows; and here I copy an extract from a paper by Mr. Shurtleff, Superintendent of Outdoor Poor, who has these infants in charge: —

An infant, upon its commitment by the overseers of the poor of a city or town, and its reception by the State Board, is examined by a medical officer of the Board's Department of Outdoor Poor, who makes a record of its condition. It is then sent to a temporary nursery provided for the purpose, and as soon as possible is placed at board in a good home in the country, under the constant supervision of the Board and its medical officers. Every effort is at once made to find the parents of deserted children, with frequent success. In such case, the parent is compelled to provide for the child. There is always a large number of applications on file of persons who desire to take the children to board, so that there is no lack of good homes in the country towns near Boston readily reached by rail. Every home is visited and investigated before being accepted. This visit is a sanitary inspection. The number and arrangement of sleeping-rooms are noted, as well as the ventilation, sunlight, drainage, supply of water and of milk, number of children in the family, and all other important matters, especially the character of the woman and her natural disposition and aptitude for caring for the child. In general, not more than one or two children are placed in one home. Material for clothing is bought in quantity at wholesale prices, of good quality, plain, but varying in pattern, so as to avoid the appearance of uniformity. Most of the foster-mothers prefer to make up the clothing themselves, and this disposition is encouraged. Part of the clothing is supplied ready made. All material and clothing are stored at the State House, and given out on a requisition. A record is kept of everything given out or returned.

Some of the infants, when received, are hopelessly diseased; while others are moribund from drugging, starvation, and exposure. All that can be done with these is to relieve them by proper nursing and comfortable surroundings during their short lives. Some are marasmic, rachitic, syphilitic, or deformed; and constant watchfulness and attendance are required to bring them to a fair degree of health. Others are fairly well, but feeble, and much more liable to disease

than other children; while a few are robust, and seem to do well from the outset. Whenever a child is placed at board, the woman who takes it is instructed to telegraph at once to the medical officer having the child in charge at the first appearance of real illness; and the physician responds at once. Sometimes the woman is directed by telegraph to employ her family physician temporarily, until it is possible for the medical visitor to attend. She is also cautioned to notify whenever in doubt about the illness of a child. Of course there can be no stated time of visiting a sick child by night or day, especially in the acute diseases to which these children are particularly liable in certain seasons. In summer a child with cholera infantum might require three visits a day; and the same would be true in cases of croup, diphtheria, or pneumonia. The medical officers are consequently never off duty. Their labor in summer is largely increased by the fact that all the young children are at that time in the country or at the seashore. It is a rule of the department that every child shall be visited as often as once a month for observation and as a preventive measure. Surgical appliances for mechanical support are often needed and supplied for ruptured or rachitic children, or for broken bones, club feet, etc.; and these cases require more time than ordinary medical cases in adjustment and after-treatment. As a rule, the necessary medicine is dispensed by the medical officers; but sometimes prescriptions are filled at a trustworthy pharmacy, and paid for by the woman, who sends her bill to the department for reimbursement. In such cases, the medical officer indorses the bill before it is approved. Supplies of medicine are furnished to the medical officer by a Boston druggist, who sends his bill to the department monthly. A careful record of each child is kept at the department, giving the name, age, date of commitment, physical condition, history, result of investigations, location, name of person boarding, visitation, course and treatment of disease, transfer, discharge, or death. When a child is considered eligible for adoption, its photograph is frequently added to the record.

These children are under the supervision of the Department of Outdoor Poor until they are three years old, or until discharged for adoption, to the town of settlement, or to the care of relatives, or by death. At the age of three years they are transferred to the charge of another department, but in many instances are not removed from their foster-mothers, or from the care of the same medical officers as before the transfer. In recent years the opportunities for obtaining homes by legal adoption into good families have been so great that it is rarely that a child reaches the age of three years without being thus permanently and satisfactorily provided for. No pains are spared to give these charges of the State the best possible start in their physical life; and closer medical oversight is unquestionably received by these children than by those of average families in the Commonwealth. The success of this work is distinctly the result of growth,

FOUNDLING. Taken while on trial for adoption. (Adopted since.)

should be partially tried by the occupation of two or three detached houses by families not to exceed thirty boys, and that the number of families should not exceed five. In fact, only three such families were formed, two occupying old buildings originally on the place, and one a new building near the main structure.

This institution was intended for a reformatory, but from the beginning the main building was to all intents and purposes a prison. The doors were bolted, the windows barred, and the dormitories were practically cells, while places of confinement were provided not unlike the ordinary prison "solitary." Schools were organized, and the boys were taught four hours daily. Five and a half hours were devoted to devotional exercises, incidental duties, and recreation, six were spent in work, leaving eight and a half hours for sleep. The boys, who were expected by Mr. Lyman to be employed mainly on the land in agriculture, were (those in the main house were thus wholly employed in locked workshops) superintended by task-masters. The earnings of the boys were considerable, and contributed largely to the support of the institution. This was a wide departure from the original plan of Mr. Lyman, who said, "The general business of the school will be agriculture; but in the winter months more time will be given to the boys in the common branches of education, and it may be in some instruction in some of the mechanical trades." It was soon found that the boys, some of whom at the time of commitment were often fully sixteen years of age, were totally unfit subjects for a school, and that, when the fire of 1859 necessitated reconstruction, what was considered as a misfortune proved an opportunity for the first step towards the best system,— that of the family. Another evil had had much to do with a want of success, and this was that the sentence committing to it was an alternate one. In place of a commitment to the jail or house of correction, boys were sent to the Reform School for a period longer than the sentence to the first-named institutions would have been, so they often committed offences in the hope that they would be transferred to the House of Correction or jail for a shorter period than that of the school. After the fire of 1859 the legislature abolished this alternative sentence, and lowered the maximum age of commitment, which has fluctuated till 1884, when it was fixed at fifteen years. At this time the buildings were taken, with the farm, by the State for a lunatic hospital, a new site was purchased, and the school established strictly on the family system.

When the opportunity came with the sale of the old buildings in 1884 for entire reconstruction, the hope sprung up that something might be realized of the original intent; and such has been the case. The fact had been demonstrated that a large congregate prison could not be the place best fitted for the reform of boys of ages varying from ten to sixteen. The present system of seven or eight families, each in charge of a master and mistress, each employed in domestic work of the houses, on the farm, in the barn, — in any way required by the occasions arising,— building, digging, etc., each family having regular school training for three or four hours daily, regular instruction in the Sloyd system of wood-working, in military drill, with necessary recreation,— this system is as satisfactory as that of any institution can be. The school is not perfect; and no claim is made that it is; but it is on the right road, and, as a preparation for life outside, is doing its work, on the whole, as well as can be expected. The numbers, though far less than in the old days, because boys then sent to the school are now often sent to the Reformatory Prison, which did not exist at that time, are still increasing; and the buildings are still inadequate. It is a question whether the colony should be enlarged or a new one started. Other steps in the work of reform for which this school was instituted will be considered under the head of visitation.

The State Industrial School at Lancaster.

The next step of Massachusetts in preventive work was the establishment of the Industrial School at Lancaster, for girls. The subject was somewhat agitated at the time the act establishing the Westborough School was brought before the legislature. It was felt that it was inopportune to introduce anything which might delay, perhaps prevent altogether, the passage of the Reform School Act; and, it being finally decided that the two schools should have no connection with each other, the matter of the Industrial School was deferred until 1854, when the first appropriation was made, a commission appointed to select site, present plans, and finally to erect the buildings. The family system was from the first decided upon. On the present site buildings were erected suitable to carry out this system, and the school was opened August, 1856. The houses were intended to accommodate families of thirty, but have proved inade-

quate properly to contain so many; and from time to time others have been provided. No division by fences has ever existed between the houses, no means for restraint. They have the look of common dwelling-houses, and the institution appearance is almost entirely avoided. The family system has been strictly adhered to from the first. Each house is governed by a matron, assisted by a teacher, who gives instruction at stated hours for a stated time, and a housekeeper who superintends and instructs the girls in cooking and other domestic duties. The superintendent has general charge of the whole. A farm of two hundred and thirty-five acres surrounds the buildings, and, besides contributing towards the food of the establishment, has added something in the way of income. At one time there were five families; but since 1876 there have been but four, one house, having been burned, has never been rebuilt. The numbers have been kept within the capacity of the remaining four houses by the constant placing of girls in families outside for domestic service. This was always done to a considerable extent, either by indenture or otherwise; but the practice has grown very largely in the last few years, so that the numbers outside, who are still subject to the control of the trustees, nearly double those remaining in the school. The maximum age of commitment has always been seventeen, and no desire has been expressed of late years to lower that age. Girls of the minimum age, seven years, are no longer received, though permitted by the statute, because the trustees and others concerned disapprove of such a course, and because children requiring the discipline of an institution can be more suitably committed to the Primary School at Monson. The school has had from its organization till 1883 male superintendents. Since that time a woman has been its superintendent, to the great satisfaction of the trustees and of the Board of Lunacy and Charity.

For many years an attempt was made to introduce an industry which, while employing the girls, should also be remunerative. It was always difficult, and of late years no such attempt has been made. The girls are employed in domestic affairs, cooking, laundry work, general housework, on the farm in sowing, weeding, gathering crops, making hay, keeping walks in order, and in a variety of occupations, always superintended by a female attendant. They also make repairs in the buildings in the way of papering, painting, oiling floors, whitewashing,—all inside repairs. For several years

no mechanics have been employed except on the outside of the buildings or in plumbing or repair of heating apparatus. Their efficiency is most remarkable, and needs no other commentary than the statement that the demand for their services outside far exceeds the supply. No "modern improvements" have been permitted in the houses. They wash in tubs, which they must fill and empty themselves. They have no mangles run by steam. They iron in the old-fashioned way, and polish with the efforts of their own muscles. They have no steam-heated apartments in which to sleep. It is the intention of the superintendent and trustees to accustom them to the usual conditions of the farm-houses of New England, in which their services are most in demand, and which are their best homes. It is not intended to furnish the institution with such appliances as shall discontent them with those they will find in these farm-houses or in the homes they have left or in those which they will have perhaps some day of their own.

It is not necessary to state to those who will read this history of the school that these methods, this constant occupation, this variety of employment, this work hard and engrossing in itself, are agencies towards reform, leaving little time for reminiscences of a past which has been bad, and little room for thoughts which turn inward or downward rather than outward and upward.

Recreation is not forgotten. Schools have their share of time. Good reading is provided, and lives as healthy and happy as they can be are substituted for those which have been depraved, impure, and unhealthy.

The State Primary School.

It has been shown at the beginning of this paper that the State Primary School receives children from Tewksbury, "juvenile offenders" from the courts when placed in the custody of the Board, and such "neglected" and "dependent" ones as are sent by the Board from the courts or directly from places of residence.

The school was established in 1866, in the buildings erected and used for a State Almshouse. The statute forbids their being classed as paupers; and, though for a time it seemed necessary to retain adult paupers here, the children were allowed no association with them. Graded schools are maintained, beginning with a kindergarten. To

those who have seen the developing process of Froebel's system for the average child, and who have marvelled at its rapid progress, it would be still more of a marvel to witness the unfolding of these little *animals*, as they seem when admitted, into bright, active human beings. Whatever this system may be for the cultured and intelligent, there can be no question of its beneficent effect upon these untrained and untaught little ones.

The school is congregate, the arrangement of these old buildings admitting of no other system; but much has been done by judicious classification and by intelligent supervision, and less injury results from this system because it is really only a place of temporary detention during the process of fitting the children for outside life. This being done, the children are at once placed in families. Those too young to work are boarded until they are old enough to compensate for such board by the little they can do. After ten years of age, all, both boys and girls, are expected thus to earn their living.

In the history of these schools I have purposely omitted all reference to the undesirability of keeping children from any of the classes in institutions longer than is absolutely necessary for proper preparation to live outside. Family life is the only natural life; and, the sooner a boy or girl can be restored to it, the sooner will he or she be on the way toward development and usefulness.

The experiment of boarding children under ten years from the State Primary School in families, begun in 1882, has been considered a successful one; and at that date until 1886 45 per cent. of the average population of the school was so placed. In another year this percentage increased to 65 per cent. With some variation it advanced to 84 in 1891, while during the last year it has risen to 142 per cent. This sudden increase has been accomplished by the appointment of a special officer for the purpose of finding suitable homes. The statute originally provided for this policy of placing out; and it is the unanimous sentiment of the Board, with which the whole power rests of placing at board, with or without compensation, as also the power of discharge.

In Massachusetts, and indeed, as is believed, among the most enlightened thinkers elsewhere, there prevails the opinion that almost any healthful life with good moral influences is better than institution life, and that the real benefit to be derived from institutions is accomplished in a short time, if at all. Temporary detention is

NEGLECTED CHILD. At board. Taken just after commitment to custody of State Board of Lunacy and Charity.
(Care of Department of Indoor Poor.)

NEGLECTED CHILD. Taken while in a private family after having been at board. (Since indentured.)

means in their power promote their best interest, prove to them that they have a friend in need, and that the State stands to them *in loco parentis* in reality as well as in form.

The success of this organization has been most gratifying; and, though there have been failures and mistakes, it is the opinion of the Board that it could ill afford to dispense with the visitors' services. They report regularly to the Superintendent of Indoor Poor, and their reports are recorded in books kept for the purpose. These reports, together with the other information obtained from the mittimus at the time of commitment to the schools, and from the superintendents of the schools, form an almost unbroken record of these words of the State until they attain majority.

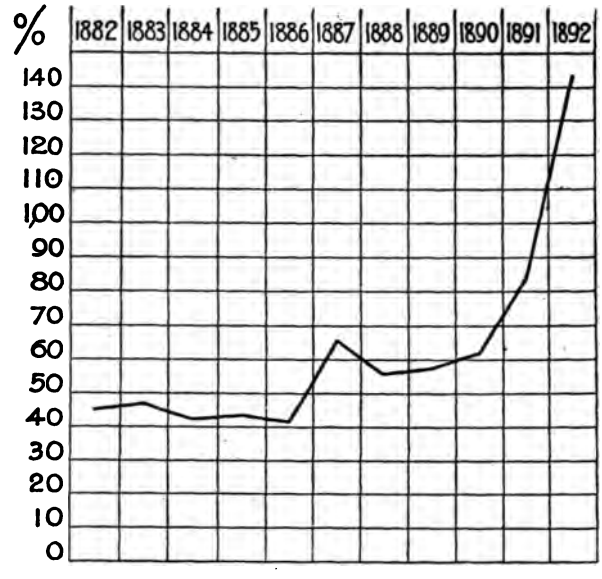
Thus it will be seen that, though Massachusetts, through its official representatives, disapproves of continuous and protracted institution life, it has provided for still better preventive methods of reform than such life, or for what it believes to be better. No system can claim perfection; but, surely, no system can claim progress which does not look constantly at results, and judge by them as to its value. Unsatisfactory as results must still be to those constantly raising the standard, it must be allowed that these results are better than those under the old *régime* of long-continued institution life of restraint, rule, and routine.

It is not claimed that the Massachusetts system of caring for State wards is as economical pecuniarily as would be that which mainly confines them to institutions; but it is claimed that the gain in good citizenship in the future of these children warrants the investment.

NEGLECTED CHILD. Taken just after return to his home by State Board of Lunacy and Charity.

board in private families full two years earlier than for those who come direct from the Primary School. Accordingly, the trustees have for years been urging every child out for whom a place could be found. The accompanying diagram will show the progress made in this work during the past year: —

Ratio (in Percentage) of Number placed out to the Average Population.



Thus it will be seen that in 1892 one hundred and forty-two per cent. of the average population has been placed out; that is to say, nearly half again as many children as are to be found at the school have gone out to homes during the past year. While the total number of inmates cared for during the year was 744, the average number was only 293, the first time the average had fallen below 300. The number at present in the school is 178; and placing out is being briskly continued, the superintendent cordially assisting the State Board's agents in the work by having the children ready for placing at short notice.

The total number of new-comers admitted during the year was 415, of whom 92 were "dependent," 72 "neglected" children, and 72 "juvenile offenders," 68 of whom were boys; also 5 not classified. 172

other children were returned from places, of whom 99 had been placed out within the year. The school contained 329 inmates at the opening of the year, and at the close, Oct. 1, 1892, 271, while on March 31, 1893, there are only 178.

But the population of the school cannot go on diminishing indefinitely; for many of the children need the shelter of an institution, as, for instance, new arrivals waiting to be fitted into the right places, others who are so lawless that a short period of taming is necessary to make them acceptable in a private household, others who have been returned from places as unsatisfactory, there usually being fifty or more of these in the school who are too old to be boarded, and who have been returned perhaps several times from places. In addition there is always a very considerable number who are physically or mentally incapable. It seems probable that, when every available child has been placed out, there must still be provision at this institution for about two hundred.

The appropriation was $51,700; salaries, $18,300; for current expenses, $33,000, besides $9,000 for boarding out. This latter sum was in addition to the appropriation for that purpose granted to the State Board of Lunacy and Charity. The weekly cost per capita of children * in the institution was $3.38, and of children at board $1.94.

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* In 1866 there were over 800 children in the three State almshouses, in 1867 over 900, in 1869 nearly 500, and in 1892 there were only 257.

When in 1882 the experiment of boarding out was inaugurated, it was feared that, as the expense of the school does not diminish in proportion to diminished numbers, money paid for board outside would prove an actual outlay for which there would be no adequate return, as, at the age of ten, when board should cease, the children would come back in great numbers to the State Primary School helpless to earn their own way for several years.

On the contrary, it has been found that, of 200 boarded children who had reached the age of ten while at board, only 13 have returned to the institution, while 19 have been discharged to their own people, and 168 have found free homes with their foster parents or others.

Schooling is secured for these children as a matter of course. The visitor employed by the State Board to select from the abundant applicants those best suited to care for the children writes: "We visit the [public] schools as well as the homes, thereby interesting the teachers, who, in a majority of cases, take a deep interest in those under our care. Our children average well with others in mental capacity, standing high in their classes at school, and often carrying off the prizes at the end of the term for punctuality, perfect recitations, and excellence of deportment."

for commitment to the Reform School at Westborough was then raised to seventeen. The discipline, perhaps necessarily, became in many ways that of a prison. A few boys were lodged in the three cottages; but the greater number lived in the congregate departments, slept in cells, and took their recreation in high-walled yards, the influence of the more vicious too often prevailing throughout the institution.

The result of this attempt to discipline boys mature in vice under a system planned for younger offenders was felt to be most unsatisfactory, and a radical reorganization was demanded both by the trustees of the institution and by the public. The opening of the Massachusetts Reformatory at Concord in 1884 made this reorganization possible. The limit of age for commitment to the Westborough School was reduced to fifteen years of age, the unwieldy, prison-like building was applied by the State to other uses, a new piece of land was bought, and the Westborough Reform School, rebaptized the Lyman School for Boys, was transferred to its present quarters. The new methods of the institution and the results were fully stated in the last report of the trustees, from which the following is for the most part taken.

The Lyman School is now located upon a farm of one hundred and seventy acres, and is organized upon the family system; that is, the boys live in cottages sufficiently removed one from another to make each household wholly independent of the rest. The number of cottages has been increased from three to seven, to meet the demand. Each house is provided with its own school-room and workshop, so that classification according to character is made possible, but has in fact proved to be neither practicable nor desirable because the boys are now so nearly of an age when they enter the school,—*i.e.*, over twelve years and under fifteen years,—and because they are committed mostly for the same class of offences, those against property.

Those who "on account of extreme youth or seeming penitence" have been committed to the custody of the State Board do not come to the Lyman School unless after a fair trial they prove unmanageable; and, whereas one hundred and forty-nine young offenders were last year committed to the Lyman School, sixty-eight others, convicted of the milder class of offences, but apparently innocent of vice, were committed to the custody of the State Board, and placed at the State Primary School at Monson. To these were added from

A CLASS IN THE LYMAN SCHOOL FOR BOYS, WESTBOROUGH.

Persistent runaways, who show themselves unwilling to profit by an open school, the trustees believe should be transferred to Concord. Happily, however, no cases of transfer for such cause have occurred within the year. The trustees are persuaded that the only satisfactory way to hold boys is to convince them that there is only one successful way out of the school,— that of honorable release,— and to fill them with a law-abiding spirit.

The school is in no sense a simple place of detention. Its purpose is to be, in a broad sense, educational; and during the incumbency of the present superintendent constant progress has been made in developing appropriate methods for arousing the interest and awakening the faculties of pupils recruited from the truant and vagrant classes. From two o'clock to five and from half-past six to eight all assemble in their respective school-rooms. In addition to the ordinary lessons appropriate to their years, observation lessons by the collection and study of plants and minerals, drawing, mechanical and free-hand, singing from note, composition, and gymnastics have been successively introduced. The teaching of the school-room is in systematic relation to that of the manual training-room. Here classes in wood-work after the Sloyd system are held in the morning, every boy receiving one lesson, and some two lessons, a week. New-comers now receive twelve lessons in mechanical drawing before they begin to work with tools, as the pupils make their own working drawings from measurements given out by the teacher.

The principles underlying the system of education are explained in detail in the report for 1891, from which the following is quoted: —

> The "Educational Sloyd" differs from the instruction that can be obtained in an ordinary carpenter's shop in providing a systematic series of lessons which require of the pupil practical exercises in multiplication, division, and fractions. He must discover for himself how many inches make a foot and how many sixteenths there are in an inch. By a carefully planned progression which he is able to comprehend, he is taught a new process with each new tool. Any imperfection in measurement or in execution brings its own penalty in results, which he can see and which he cannot evade; and, according to his faithfulness or his heedlessness, the completed work, whether a simple wedge or a dove-tail joint, becomes a source of satisfaction or of regret. He is now prepared to apply his skill to common carpentering, cabinet-making, or other trades.
>
> At each step the work of the school-room is related to that of the manual training. Preliminary work in clay modelling and drawing prepares the pupil to understand the principles familiarly recognized in the workshop. Besides learning what any country-bred boy would be ashamed not to know about the grain of the wood and other practical matters, his eye is trained to a nicer perception and his hand

to a nicer skill. His observation lessons now become interesting as he studies the bean plant in embryo and at various stages of growth, sketching it as well as he can, and describing it in his written exercise. The habit of thus recording what he has himself observed prepares him to reproduce what he gathers from reading upon any subject in which he is interested. The importance to this class of boys of forming a taste for good reading can hardly be overstated. Biographical sketches compiled from various sources, and read at the close of the summer term, showed that many of the Lyman School boys had been reading and studying intelligently and with a purpose.

An integral element in the school system is the military drill (all in uniform and armed with real swords and muskets), and the physical culture drill after the Swedish, or Ling, system. The latter is practised daily, and is admirably adapted to developing obedience, promptness, and self-control. Such exercises, valuable to every one, are especially so to those who, as is the case with many criminals, have ill-developed nervous centres. Both the military and physical culture drill are paid for from the Lyman Fund.

These various educational efforts have undoubtedly effected a marked change in the mental habits of the boys. A more alert bearing, a better tone of conversation, a greater interest in lessons and in serious reading, is noted. Only those who knew the school a few years ago, or who are familiar with juvenile reformatories of the old-fashioned type, can appreciate the extent of the advance. It is significant that whereas in past time, when the school was conducted upon the prison plan, the number of whippings and confinements in the lock-up are recorded during the six months of 1878 as averaging thirty-one a month to a hundred boys; in 1886, when the school had been reorganized upon the family plan, but was without any of the special training which has since been introduced, the punishments fell to an average of ten a month per hundred boys; and this year they have fallen to eight per month per hundred boys,—a total decrease of 75 per cent.

Such hours in the morning as are not spent in the manual training classes or in drilling are devoted, during the winter months or in inclement weather, to various industries,—heel-cutting, simple forging, weaving mats for hot-beds, chair-seating, and tailoring. These industries are slightly remunerative, but not sufficiently so to make it worth while to carry them on except for the sake of keeping the boys busy. They have, however, little educational value; and it is desired that occupations tending directly to develop skill in the workers shall be gradually substituted for them. At present much less time is

spent at such uneducational work than formerly. Half a dozen or more boys work in the morning throughout the year in the printing-room: as many others work in the barn, and learn milking and the care of cattle, hens, etc. In each family from six to eleven boys must always be detailed for housework; but such a rotation of duties is arranged that the same ones are rarely so occupied for more than three months at a time.

At the proper seasons outdoor work upon the farm and grounds is substituted for the indoor industries. A kitchen garden is allotted to each family, that the boys may raise the produce they themselves consume, thus enjoying a larger or smaller supply of fruit and vegetables, according to their own diligence. All the boys, in one way or another, put some labor into this garden plot. Much work has also been done in the way of making roads and drains, carting and sorting brick for the new building, etc.

All commitments to the Lyman School are for minority. This amounts to an indeterminate sentence, the boys being released on probation long before their terms expire. In the first few years after the reorganization upon the family plan it was usual to release after about one year in the school; but the trustees, noting the fact that many who did well in the institution and went out full of good resolutions fell back into evil courses, considered that such time of detention must be insufficient to effect a radical change of character. I is evident that children who have grown up in the street, perhaps in the gutter, ever since they were born, fall into crime, not necessarily from innate viciousness, but from a bad rearing, from idleness, from laziness, and a lack of all habits of self-control; and to implant better habits, first by enforcing hard work and strict discipline, and second by awakening the dormant faculties of these street Arabs, demands time as well as education. Therefore, with the increased advantages introduced into the school, the trustees have increased the time of detention from an average of seventeen months to an average of twenty-two months. It is now required that boys shall earn a certain number of credits before they can become candidates for release. The names of those who have attained the honor grade are then presented to the trustees for action. This removes the element of arbitrariness from the length of the term: every boy knows that he decides the matter for himself by his daily conduct. Marks are posted weekly, that all may realize how they stand. Exceptionally good boys can earn their release in a year; a majority stay in the school for eigh-

teen months or more; and over thirty per cent. of this last year's releases had been in the institution for more than two years. This method of release and the lengthened detention have produced excellent results.

In considering the question of release, the trustees require a detailed report upon the home and its surrounding conditions, the nature of the offence for which the boy was committed, whether he had previously been before the court or been in other institutions, and the superintendent's estimate of his character. Last year 60 per cent. were released to their parents: the rest are placed out with farmers.

Previous to 1889 the boys in places were visited by agents of the State Board of Lunacy and Charity who had other and more pressing duties; also, *i.e.*, attendence at trials of juvenile offenders. Since 1889 the Board has employed a visitor whose sole business is the supervision of Lyman School boys, whether in places or in their homes; and all are held now to a strict probation. Those who are idle or who run away from their places are recalled to the school, no pains being spared to capture runaways; and those who prove incorrigible are transferred to the Massachusetts Reformatory at Concord.

Their were: —

In the school Sept. 30, 1891,	200
Committed by court,	125
Recommitted by court,	2
Returned from places,	28
Total,	355

Of these 355 there were: —

Released on probation to parents,	75
Released on probation to places,	45
Transferred to Massachusetts Reformatory,	5
Transferred to Bridgewater,	5
Discharged as unfit subjects,	2
Runaways,	2
Returned to court,	1
Died,	1
Remaining in school Oct. 1, 1892,	219
Total,	355

SHOWING CONDUCT OF THE 506 BOYS ON PROBATION.

The following statistics are from the reports of visitors employed by the State Board of Lunacy and Charity, and not in the employ of the school: —

Condition of all boys who have been released on probation up to March 30, 1893: —

Total,	506
Doing well,	67%
Not doing well,	5%
Have been sent to other penal or reformatory institutions,	19%
Whereabouts and condition unknown,	9%

Condition of all boys under twenty-one who have been out at place one year or more: —

Doing well,	67½%
Not doing well,	3%
Have been in some other penal institution,	17%
Condition unknown,	12½%

Condition of all boys who have been out on probation two years and over: —

Doing well,	60%
Not doing well,	7%
Have been in some other penal institution,	22%
Condition unknown,	11%

Condition of boys on probation who complete their nineteenth year before Oct. 1, 1893: —

90% have been out two years or more.

Doing well,	73%
Not doing well,	2½%
Have been in some other penal institution.	15½%
Condition unknown,	9%

Condition of boys on probation who complete their twentieth year before Oct. 1, 1893: —

90% have been out three years or more.

Doing well,	56%
Not doing well,	7%
Have been in some other penal institution,	26%
Condition unknown,	11%

Condition of boys on probation who complete their twenty-first year before Oct. 1, 1893: —

All have been out three years or more.

Doing well,	42%
Have been sent to some other penal institution,	35%
Condition unknown,	23%

"Doing well" means that, in spite of the scrutiny to which they are naturally subjected, the conduct of the boys so classed has been sufficiently satisfactory to the neighbors and employees to prevent any unfavorable report.

AVERAGE AGE OF COMMITMENT FOR TEN YEARS.

	Years.		Years.
1883,	15.33	1888,	12.92
1884,	14.08	1889,	13.07
1885,	13.5	1890,	13.15
1886,	13.25	1891,	13.89
1887,	13.56	1892,	13.73
Average for ten years,		13.54	

AVERAGE AGE OF DISCHARGE FOR TEN YEARS.

	Years.		Years.
1883,	15.83	1888,	14.96
1884,	15.79	1889,	15.17
1885,	15.86	1890,	15.1
1886,	15.41	1891,	15.48
1887,	15.56	1892,	15.63
Average age for ten years,		15.48	

SHOWING NATIVITY OF PARENTS OF BOYS.

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Fathers born in the United States,	—	—	—	—	12	29	7	7	10	12
Mothers born in the United States,	—	—	—	—	7	32	13	4	10	7
Fathers foreign born,	—	—	—	—	8	63	11	5	18	5
Mothers foreign born,	—	—	—	—	13	58	9	9	5	12
Both parents born in United States,	—	—	—	—	15	20	29	22	20	22
Both parents foreign born,	—	—	—	—	43	48	71	52	53	54
Unknown,	—	—	—	—	25	13	13	11	7	23
One parent unknown,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	16
Per cent. of American parentage,	—	—	—	—	24	29	30	29	29	25
Per cent. of foreign parentage,	—	—	—	—	51	63	62	60	61	50
Per cent. of unknown,	—	—	—	—	25	8	8	11	10	25

NOTE.— There was no such division of the table previous to 1887.

SHOWING NATIVITY OF BOYS.

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892
Born in the United States,	94	128	61	50	80	89	101	77	86	105
Foreign born,	6	24	4	9	13	10	17	14	23	19
Unknown,	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1

AVERAGE TIME SPENT IN THE INSTITUTION FOR TEN YEARS.

	Months.		Months.
1883,	12	1888,	17.58
1884,	13.54	1889,	17.3
1885,	15	1890,	18.38
1886,	15.93	1891,	22.6
1887,	17.82	1892,	22.1

BOYS RETURNED FROM PLACE FOR ANY CAUSE.

1883,	14	1888,	34
1884,	33	1889,	20
1885,	28	1890,	14
1886,	39	1891,	21
1887,	27	1892,	30

It is believed that the number of boys returned to the institution as unsatisfactory has been diminished by the increased length of time spent in the school, since during the first five of the ten years tabulated 536 boys were placed out on trial, and 141 returned; while during the second five years 505 were placed out, and 124 returned, which shows something over eight per cent. in favor of the lengthened stay.

COST OF MAINTENANCE: SALARIES AND ALL CURRENT EXPENSES.

Weekly per Capita Cost for Ten Years.

1883,	$6.14.	Congregate.	1888,	$4.40.	Cottages.
1884,	4.46.	Congregate.	1889,	4.26.	"
1885,	5.60.	Cottages.	1890,	4.29.	"
1886,	5.90.	"	1891,	4.31.	"
1887,	5.56.	"	1892,	4.76.*	"

Average per capita cost for ten years, ... $4.97.

*Includes extraordinary repairs in sanitary arrangements.

Weekly per Capita Cost for the Past Year.

Salaries,	$1.72
Provisions and groceries,	.98
Clothing,	.49
Furniture, beds, and bedding,	.20
Fuel and lights,	.41
Farm tools, live stock, and general farm expenses,	.25
General repairs,	.40
All other expenses,	.31

The appropriation last year was $27,500 for current expenses, and $19,085 for salaries,—a total of $46,585. The net per capita cost was $4.76. These figures do not include the expenditure of $1,510.92 from the Lyman Fund.

No account is here made of money earned from labor of boys or otherwise, for this should be accounted for in a separate table. The amount expended for salaries and current expenses each year is divided by the average number of boys for that year.

There will be no attempt made in this short pamphlet to deduce from the lists given any generalizations or theories. Suffice it to say that the history of each boy and girl is recorded at the State House, and duplicated at the schools at Westborough and Lancaster, and annually summed up on catalogue cards for convenience in making the analyses. The figures are obtained from reports made by impartial visitors, not from any mere guess-work by superintendents or trustees.

Statistics of great value might be compiled from a series of similar records of the conduct of probationers from the reform schools throughout this and other countries.

STATISTICS.

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878	1879.	1880	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
New commitments,	140	110	124	132	120	134	102	95	71	108	100	138	64	59	93	99	124	92	109	125
Whole number in school during the year,	480	499	494	524	509	462	457	353	341	290	247	274	247	198	214	255	296	295	315	374
RELEASED FROM THE SCHOOL:																				
On probation to parents and others,	110	141	119	138	186	120	216	116	113	146	125	107	126	95	83	96	99	91	99	120
To other penal or reformatory institutions (incorrigible boys),	9	3	4	13	13	1	1	3	3	4	6	13	21	4	4	11	3	8	7	10
To hospitals for special treatment,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	2
Died,	—	3	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
Returned to court over fifteen years when committed,	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
*Expiration of sentence,	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*These are the only boys held in the school till their sentences expired within the last twenty years.

juvenile offenders afford the basis for such discrimination, the superintendent supplementing this by her own estimate of the case. There is no promotion from house to house; that is, good conduct within the institution never allows one who has been guilty of most serious offences to be transferred to a family containing more innocent girls. But for bad conduct in the school or when out on probation a girl may be transferred to the household containing similar offenders. This method of grading reduces to a minimum the danger of contaminating the comparatively innocent, for no intercourse is allowed between girls of the various houses, each family being kept to itself either when at work or school or play. This prevents graded schoolrooms, and of course seriously hampers the teachers; but the trustees believe that for such girls classification according to character is of the first importance. Except when the institution is crowded, each girl has a separate sleeping-room.

2. The occupations of the girls are not such as to bring in a revenue, the aim of the school being to fit them as quickly as possible for life in the world; and the career for which it seems best to train them is that of service in country households or in their own homes. Book-learning is not neglected, every afternoon being devoted to lessons; but the emphasis of the training is upon the domestic arts, and every girl who leaves the school is skilled not only in one, but in all the domestic departments,— sewing, cleaning, laundry work, and cooking. To accomplish this, as soon as she is proficient in one branch she is promoted to another department in the same house. This would be impossible, were the institution relying on her skill to earn an income.

3. The household appointments are rigidly simple. No heat is allowed in the sleeping-rooms. Furnaces cared for by the girls are used in preference to steam heat. They have no set wash-tubs or other labor-saving machines, for they must learn to contend with such lack of modern conveniences as they will surely encounter in the plain households where their work will be in demand. The matrons are encouraged to practise, and to teach the girls to practise, the small economies of an old-fashioned farm-house,— repairing and dyeing old carpets, upholstering shabby furniture, papering, painting, setting window-panes, and often performing the simpler kinds of carpentering. The girls delight in such novel occupations, which give variety and zest to a round of tasks that might otherwise grow monotonous. The practice is to reward good work by promotion to some more

LAUNDRY IN ELM COTTAGE, STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, LANCASTER.

reformed fall back into evil ways; while others, of whom it seemed impossible to expect anything, do well. It is certain that the influence of the visitors succeeds in upholding many weak girls in virtue, while their careful oversight can detect many lapses from virtue which would otherwise escape the knowledge of the trustees. The efficiency of the State Board's salaried visitor and other assistants makes this unpaid service available.

It is found that girls who are allowed to go directly from the school to their parents so frequently fall back into evil ways that the trustees allow very few to go home on probation until they have first approved themselves in other places. All but six of the seventy-eight released on probation last year were sent to places. The demand for the girl's services in country households at wages of from $1.50 to $2.50 a week far exceeds the supply. A quarter of their earnings is, if possible, placed at interest till the depositor becomes of age or is married. Over $1,300 has been deposited this year. The superintendent opposes any attempt on the part of the girl or her employer to conceal the fact of her having been at the school. After having spent a year or more in the attempt to lead her girls to speak the truth and act the truth, she would not have them induced, through mistaken kindness on the part of their employers, to tell or act a lie. On the contrary, she tells them that it is the better girls who have not tried to conceal this, but have lived it down. Those who are out on probation usually keep up a close tie with the superintendent and the various officers, often returning to the school for holidays or visits.

Of the fifty commitments last year nearly half the number were for stubbornness on complaint of parents, who feared that disobedience was leading or had led to graver sins; and the rest were brought before the courts by the police, too often as notorious offenders. The trustees in their reports repeatedly urge that the former class should be increased at the expense of the latter; that is, that parents, friends, and officers of the law should more frequently interpose to check wayward girls in the first stages of a downward career. It often happens that, when first brought before the courts, girls are first put on probation in their own homes; but, being subject to no effective oversight or other influence likely to induce reform, too often their reprieve allows them to stain themselves deeper with sins that can never be wholly washed away. While the trustees are persuaded that the age limit of seventeen is none too high,— those of sixteen and over often proving as amenable to reforming influences as the younger

ones,—they believe it to be a mistaken kindness which would leave a girl in bad company after the danger point has been reached, thus rendering the work of reform far more difficult.

The average number in the institution, according to the last report, was 89.2. The per capita cost was $4.46 per week. The total appropriation was $20,000, of which $8,000 was for salaries, and $12,000 for current expenses.

The following table gives an accurate presentation of the status on Sept. 30, 1892, of each girl who had been in the custody of the school Sept. 30, 1891, including those in the institution and those outside, with the reason for the recall of such as were returned to the school, whether for serious fault, for unsatisfactory conduct, or simply for change of place or on account of illness.

To sum up, the trustees believe the value of the Industrial School to consist in: first, its system of careful classification of the inmates; second, its system of fitting them as quickly as possible to earn their way outside rather than using their work to secure a revenue for the institution; third, its system of relying for discipline upon the general method of life and work rather than upon any artificial rewards and punishments; and, fourth, its system of careful supervision during a long term of probation. The large proportion of its wards reclaimed to virtuous living attest the efficacy of these methods.

NOTE.—Three times every year the volunteer auxiliary visitors, women commissioned by the State Board of Lunacy and Charity, assemble at one of the schools or at the State House, where a welcome is extended to them, sometimes by his Excellency the Governor, and always by some members of the State Board. Then follows an executive session for discussion of such questions as social opportunities for the girls who have no mother nor sister to visit, the earning, spending, and saving of wages, the duties of the visitor to the employer, how to give her a clear understanding of the girl's weaknesses or dangerous tendencies without retailing her whole history with information which is intrusted to the visitor alone, to be used only with the greatest discretion. From these meetings the visitors go to the homes, often in remote districts, refreshed and stimulated to more intelligent work.

The visitors have made some mistakes, and in rare instances have neglected their duty. A lack of business habits deprives some of them of much of the credit which their work deserves; for they too often fail to report quarterly the visits which they are known to have made, often much more than four times per year. Meantime the cordiality with which many a girl has spoken of "my visitor," and has corresponded with her even when removed from her care, bears testimony to the real value of the relation that can be established between the two.

A visitor should prepare herself for dealing with these girls by acquainting her-

		Sept. 30, 1891.		Sept. 30, 1892.	
There remained in the custody of the State Industrial School for Girls,			272		283
I. SUPPORTED BY THE STATE:					
Remaining in the school,			91		
Of whom 45 had been committed in former years, 46 had been committed during the year ending Sept. 30, 1891.					
Remaining in the school,					82
34 had been committed in former years, 48 during year ending Sept. 30, 1892.					
Transferred in former years to the Reformatory:					
Prison for Women,		3		4	
Transferred this year,		4		1	
Transferred this year to institution not penal,		1	8	4	9
Total still supported by the State,			99		91
II. NO LONGER SUPPORTED BY THE STATE, BUT STILL IN CUSTODY,			173		192
Subtracting those who were at large, having left places,			14		15
Those who were honestly self-supporting, still under twenty-one years of age,			159		177
These 159 girls were distributed as follows, namely: —					
With relatives or friends, still on probation,			26		
Conduct: good,					27
Not good,					3
At work in other families,			96		118
At work elsewhere,			1		
Had been married and were still subject to recall for misconduct, being under twenty-one years of age,			36		29
Total still in custody, but no longer maintained by the State,			159		177

self with the home and social life of those of a similar class in life whom she may see pouring out of factories or shops. She would soon become convinced of the need of the sympathetic care which she has it in her power to extend to those whom the school has trained for self-support, but whom no institution can fully prepare for resisting the evil influence of idlers or worse in the quiet village into which they are now to be transplanted. After a time the girl generally appreciates such disinterested effort in her behalf. One of the visitors, a graduate of Wellesley College, writes, "I have enjoyed my work very much on the whole, and have learned to believe in the system most thoroughly, so many of our girls here have done finely, and are coming out good strong women: it is an inspiration to think of them."

Total in custody,	272	283
During the year ending Sept. 30, 1892, new commitments,	50	
Attained majority, 36		
Discharged by trustees, 1		
Died, 2		
Total who passed out of care of State,	39*	
Net increase,	11	283

PLACING OUT AND RECALLING TO THE SCHOOL.

A girl may be recalled by the trustees to the school, whether on account of misconduct or illness or for change of place. The figures on the following charts will show how often this policy has secured, even for a restless or troublesome girl, a satisfactory place at last.

During the year there were recalled to the school (10 of them more than once),		57
Of whom for bad conduct (1 stealing, 1 intemperate),	8	
For no serious fault,	48	
For unsatisfactory conduct, but all again placed out, 6		
For illness or change of place, not implying misconduct, 32		
Having left their places, but found with respectable relatives or at work, 10		
Total recalled (including 1 feeble-minded),		57

There has been an increase in numbers cared for by the school, an increase in placing out, an increase in per capita cost, a decrease in actual cost: —

	Average number in the school.	Number of commitments.	Number at work in families.†	Weekly per capita cost.	Total actual cost of the school.
1866,	144	59	53	$3.30	$24,753
1876,	121	53	40	4.05	25,683
1890,	94	56	90	4.08	20,000
1891,	89	46	98	4.38	21,000
1892,	89	50	118	4 46	21,320

*Of the 39 who during the year passed out of the care of the State, the conduct had been as follows: —

Married, conduct good at last accounts,	16	
Unmarried, conduct good at last accounts,	9	
Died, conduct good,	2	
Total conduct good,	27	or 72%
Total conduct unknown,	4	or 10%
Total whose conduct had been bad (5 of them had been in prison),	7	or 18%
Discharged not a citizen,	1	
Total,	39	

†Girls on probation to friends are not included in the above list. They are, however, visited, and subject to recall to the school.

In 1866, with an average of 144 in the school at a weekly cost of only $3.30, and only 53 self-supporting by work in families on probation, the total cost was higher by $3,433 than at present, when there are but 89 (average) in the school at a weekly cost of $4.46, and 118 at work in families on probation.

This does not include the comparatively small cost of visiting, being, perhaps, two-thirds of the time of 77 volunteer visitors and 1 salaried visitor; *i.e.*, $1,749.86,—*i.e.*, less than $6 per year for each girl visited.

SUMMARY.

Of the 272 girls who were in the care of the school Sept. 30, 1891:

A. Honestly Self-supporting.

I. No Longer in the Care of the State:

Attained majority, conduct good,	25
Died,	2
	27

II. In Care of the State, but no longer maintained at Public Expense:

Married, conduct good at last accounts,	26
On probation with friends,	27
At work in other families, including 6 returned for unsatisfactory conduct, but placed out again,	117
At an academy, paying her way,	1
	171
Total who had become honestly self-supporting,	198

B. Conduct Bad or Doubtful.

I. Had attained Majority:

Having been transferred to Reformatory Prison,	5
Others, conduct bad,	2
	7

II. Still in Care of the State, being under 21 Years:

In Reformatory Prison,	5
In almshouse, bad conduct,	2
At large or with friends or married, conduct doubtful,	7
Recalled, and remaining in the State Industrial School,	3
	17
Total, conduct bad or doubtful,	24

C. Conduct not Known.

I. Had attained majority, married, conduct unknown,	4
II. Not yet 21, at large, having left places,	14
Total, conduct unknown,	18

*D. Remainder.**

I.	In the State Industrial School through year, ...	23
II.	Recalled for illness or change of place, ...	8
III.	In the School for the Feeble-minded, ...	1
		32
	Grand Total, ...	272

Ten girls who had at some time during the year been at large were found either at work or with respectable relatives. The same may be true of the fourteen still at large at the end of the year.

The above table is compiled from 272 catalogue cards. If similar tables could be collected through a series of years concerning the conduct of juvenile offenders valuable material might be obtained for the guidance of magistrates, practical philanthropists, and of students of social science.

The conduct of the graduates of an institution is the only fair test of its value to the community which is taxed for its support.

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* Conduct while in the school is generally good; but, as there is little opportunity for misconduct, no account is made of it on these lists.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT OF 1891.

To the Trustees of the State Primary and Reform Schools:

Since so many inquiries have been made regarding the girls' dietary, it seems best that it be given in detail. While no fixed order of diet is followed, the statement submitted will give, as nearly as possible, a week's dietary as usually carried out. A rigid order of diet is not adhered to. In fact, the exact reverse is aimed at. Although the standard articles of food remain of necessity much the same, variety in serving does away with what there might be of monotony. To this end the housekeepers are instructed to so modify the dishes from day to day and week to week as to render them palatable in the greatest variety of forms. Each housekeeper, of course, has her different ways of doing this; but, virtually, the dietary for each house is the same.

To illustrate, griddle-cakes are served for the morning meal once a week, milk toast the same, each housekeeper suiting her judgment as to time, according to circumstances and convenience, usually utilizing these and similar dishes, when there is nothing left over from the dinner of the day before. It will be noticed in the statement that, as a rule, remnants of yesterday's dinner appear in the breakfast. This meal, therefore, is not only economical, but one easily prepared. Waste is not tolerated. All pieces of stale bread are reserved in toasts, bread puddings, "brown betties," etc.; remains of a meat or vegetable dinner, in meat or vegetable hash.

During the summer and harvesting months there are added all kinds of vegetables, garden sauce, and fruits in their season. These are served in abundance. The quantities consumed are surprising, being more relishable at this season than meats. Recognizing this fact, during the hot months a vegetable dish supplants the usual meat roast of Wednesday's dinner,—baked peas, pea soup, or onion stew, supplemented with sweet corn, cucumbers, and other vegetables, with a simple dessert of pumpkin pie or apple dumpling. During the early apple season sauce is served every night for supper, and

throughout the year once or twice a week. Tomatoes are likewise abundantly used. In the months when eggs are plentiful they are frequently served, sometimes in place of Friday's fish. The latter, when used ("salt fish"), is served in various ways,— broiled, with milk gravy, fish chowder, fish hash, fishballs, etc. Corn bread or "Johnny cake" is supposed to form a part of nearly every dinner. Fresh, rich milk is provided the entire year, and as much of it as is wished.

SUNDAY.

Breakfast.

Warm brown bread or biscuit, butter, coffee.

Dinner.

Baked beans, brown bread, wheat bread, pickles, pie or pudding.

Supper.

Rice or crackers and milk.

MONDAY.

Breakfast.

Mush and molasses, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Vegetable hash or cold corned beef from Saturday's dinner, potatoes, vegetables, corn cake.

Supper.

Bread, milk, gingerbread.

TUESDAY.

Breakfast.

Beans from Sunday's dinner, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Fresh fish, baked with dressing or broiled with gravy, potatoes, corn cake, pickles, wheat bread.

Supper.

Bread, milk, bread pudding.

WEDNESDAY.

Breakfast.

Oatmeal, molasses, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Roast meat, potatoes, tomatoes, gravy, Johnny cake, wheat bread.

Supper.

Bread, milk, sauce.

THURSDAY.

Breakfast.

Griddle cakes and molasses, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Beef stew, vegetables, bread, "brown betty."

Supper.

Bread, milk, doughnuts or gingerbread.

FRIDAY.

Breakfast.

Soup from Thursday's dinner, mush, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Potatoes, salt fish, milk gravy, or pork scraps and fishballs, tomatoes or pickles, corn cake.

Supper.

Milk toast, bread, milk, sauce.

SATURDAY.

Breakfast.

Fish hash, bread, cocoa or milk.

Dinner.

Corned beef, potatoes, vegetables of all kinds, brown bread.

Supper.

Bread, molasses, milk.*

Respectfully submitted,

L. L. BRACKETT,
Superintendent.

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*The approximate cost of food divided by the number of persons in the institution — *i.e.*, an average of 89 girls and 19 officers and employees — is 16 cents per day.

APPENDIX

[STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING THEIR EXHIBIT AT CHICAGO.]

MASSACHUSETTS INFANT ASYLUM.

BOSTON, MASS.

A PRIVATE INSTITUTION.

This corporation was organized in 1868, the object of the founders being to preserve the lives of young babies who have lost their mothers or whose mothers are, by reason of poverty or other cause, unable to take care of them.

The government of the institution is carried on by a Board of about thirty Directors, divided into committees. There is a Matron who resides at the asylum; and there are Attending Physicians whom she can call upon at any time, and who have devised the sanitary and hygienic regulations which are in force.

The entire number of babies cared for has been a little over two thousand, of which about one-third have been children of nurses. The rest are children sent by the State (who are almost all foundlings) and children admitted by the Admission Committee of the Directors on the application of parents or charitable persons. Children are not admitted at more than nine months old, and are discharged when or before they reach two years. No child suffering under any incurable physical or mental disease or any disease dangerous to the other inmates of the Asylum is admitted; but, nevertheless, the children are, as a class, very delicate, and before this institution was founded the death-rate among them was at least as high as 90 per cent.

It has been the constant effort of all connected with the Asylum to devise means for preserving their lives.

At a very early time the Directors originated the plan of boarding out the healthy children, which has been found so advantageous and been so generally adopted elsewhere. As a rule, only the younger and most delicate children are kept in the Asylum itself, the others being boarded in private families, carefully selected and inspected by the Boarding Committee of the Directors.

The babies in the Asylum are taken care of in part by wet-nurses, the Directors having found by experience that, on account of the weakness and poor health of the children as a class, a wet-nurse was needed for every two of the babies actually in the building. The training and improvement of the women received as wet-nurses is a valuable though subsidiary part of the work.

At first the work was carried on in ordinary houses; but in 1876 the present Asylum was built, with accommodations for from twenty-five to thirty babies. It is constructed on what is known as the pavilion system, with approved sanitary arrangements, and is situated on the slope of a hill in a suburb which is now becoming thickly settled.

In practice the Directors have found it most desirable to keep about three-quarters of the babies at board; and the very good results which they have secured will be seen by the subjoined Table A, which shows the percentages of death-rate from the year 1869 to the year 1892. These percentages are made up by comparing the entire number of children in the Asylum at any time during the year with the number of deaths. In some cases, the children did not remain until they were two years old; but the error arising from this source is not important, because the children discharged are always thoroughly healthy and strong, and, barring accidents, would undoubtedly have lived to be two years old, had they been kept in the Asylum.

In case of foundlings or children whom it is not possible or desirable to return to their parents, homes are found into which they are adopted.

Whenever it is possible, the parents are required to make some payment for the care of the children.

The Directors wish to call special attention to the following features of their methods, which they believe have contributed especially to their success.

1. The boarding out of the healthy children.

2. The wet-nursing of the delicate children and to some extent of all the younger children.

3. The construction of the Asylum building with separate wards and sunny, airy corridors, as shown in the photographs.

4. The special appliances for sterilization, etc., some of which are illustrated in the exhibits.

TABLE A.

MASSACHUSETTS INFANT ASYLUM.

FOUNDED 1868.

Admittance.— Not older than nine months.

Discharge.—At or before two years.

Death-rate.— Made up by comparing total number of children in charge of the Asylum at any time during the year with the total deaths.

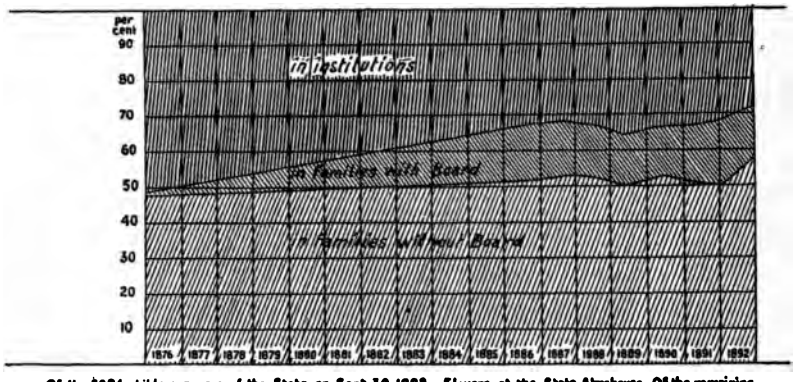
YEAR.	DEATH-RATE.	
1869–70	34.66	Work begun in an ordinary house in Dorchester, with 30 babies.
1870–71	30	2 or 3 wet-nurses taken for a few very delicate babies.
1871–72	26	More wet-nurses.
1872–73	45	More boarded out.
1873–74	14.3	———
1874–75	19.48	———
1875–76	9.5	A wet-nurse for every two babies.
1876–77	11	The present Asylum opened for 27 or 30 babies.
1877–78	16	State wards in larger numbers admitted.
1878–79	8	30 children "boarded out."
1879–80	93	State asked to send all its foundlings. Agreed to accommodate 75.
1880–81	14	Two-thirds of all the babies boarded out.
1881–82	9	———
1882–83	6.79	———
1883–84	10.7	———
1884–85	11.84	State began to "board out" for itself.
1885–86	11.11	State reduced its limit for 50 babies.
1886–87	97	———
1887–88	12.57	Only 26 State babies were sent.
1888–89	6.25	Only 15 State babies were sent.
1889–90	4.57	———
1890–91	5	After this year the State has sent none.
1891–92	5	Only children received have been on application of parents or charitable persons.
1892–93	3.9	———

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Policy of the State in Boarding and Placing out State Children

PERCENTAGES – NOT ABSOLUTE NUMBERS — SHOWN

NUMBER IN INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED BY
" " FAMILIES WITH BOARD " "
" " " WITHOUT " " "



Of the 2284 children in care of the State on Sept. 30. 1892. 51 were at the State Almshouse. Of the remaining 2233, the several classes were as follows –

	IN INSTITUTIONS	IN FAMILIES		TOTAL	PERCENTAGES
		Board paid by the State	Board not paid by the State		
JUVENILE OFFENDERS	383	2	706	1091	
NEGLECTED CHILDREN OVER 3 YEARS OLD	68	141	262	471	
DEPENDENT CHILDREN OVER 3 YEARS OLD	107	131	311	549	
INFANTS LESS THAN 3 YEARS OLD		104	18	122	
CHILDREN AT STATE ALMSHOUSE	51			51	
TOTAL	609	378	1297	2284	

Of the 51 children in the State Almshouse 43 were in the maternal or nursery wards in care of their mothers 1 in care of his father, and 7 under treatment in the hospital ward

The following are the Figures shown in the Preceding Chart.

September 30	1866	1876	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892
State Almshouse, Tewksbury	178	74	46	60	73	44	37	66	51
State Almshouse, Bridgewater	65	63	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
State Primary School, Monson	466	485	357	300	297	328	336	317	257
Lyman School, Westboro, boys	332	349	90*	118	142	184	185	200	219
Industrial School, Lancaster, girls	137	127	70*	58	63	87	97	91	82
Schoolship, boys	259	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	1,437	1,098	563	536	575	643	655	674	609
In families, without board	628	1,000	885	899	902	897	1,046	1,058	1,297†
At board in families	–	44	247	262	240	262	274	325	378
Grand total	2,065	2,142	1,695*†	1,697	1,717	1,802	1,975	2,057	2,284
Percentage of whole number in institutions	70	51	33	32	33	36	33	33	27
In families, without board	30	47	52	53	53	50	53	51	57
In families, with board	–	2	15	15	14	14	14	16	16

* Falling off in commitments. School in disrepute with magistrates, subsequently ceased to be so.

† Change in settlement laws,— *i.e.*, maintenance of many indigent children transferred to towns.

GENERAL STATISTICS SHOWING RESULTS OF BOARDING AND PLACING OUT.

FIGURES FOR ALL CHILDREN BOARDED AND PLACED BY STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BOARDED OUT.

I. While boarded out the cost is small.

	Over 3 years old.	Under 3 years old.
Average number of children boarded out in 1892,	264	104
Cost of maintenance,	$26,417.91	$16,660 99
Cost per child per week,	1.92*	3.07†

II. They soon cease to be supported by the State.

The rule is not to pay board for children over the age of ten.

Up to Oct. 1, 1892, two hundred children were boarded out from the State Primary School that had reached that age.

Of these there were

Returned to the institution,	13
Discharged to their own people,	19
Kept by their foster parents or others, without expense to the State,	168
	200

RECORD OF CHILDREN UNDER THREE, 1892.

Department of Outdoor Poor.

In charge Oct. 1, 1891,	84	
Received during the year,	169	
Total during the year,	253	
Disposal during the year:—		
Adopted,	23	
Discharged to department of indoor poor because three years old,	20	
Discharged to parents or relatives,	21	
To town of settlement,	2	
Sent to hospital,	1	
Died,	64	
		131
Remaining Oct. 1, 1892,		122
Total,		253

*Add cost of visiting, about 23 cents per child per week; total, $2.15 per child.

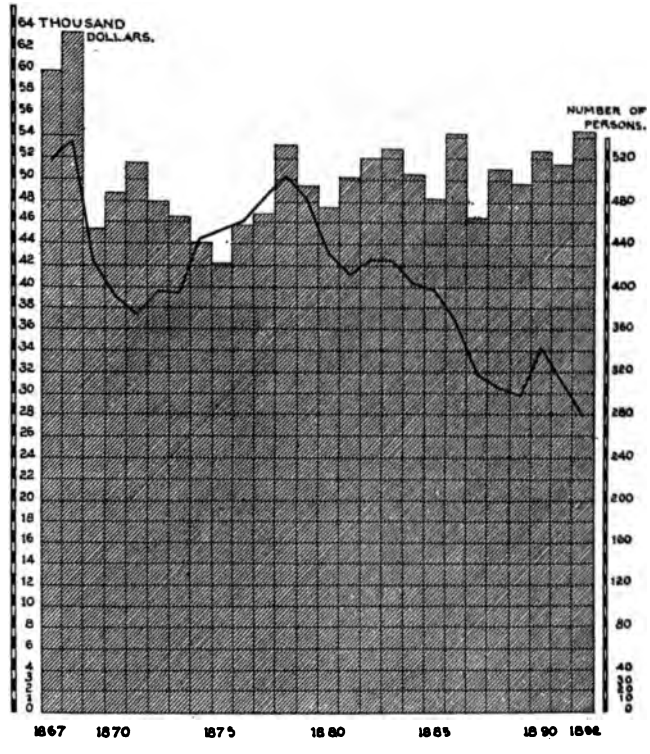
† Including cost of 2,106 visits by medical visitors.

APPENDIX

	Brought forward,		68
II.	BAD OR UNSATISFACTORY CONDUCT.		
	Transferred to Lyman School,	2 boys	
	" " Industrial School,	1 girl	
	" " Massachusetts Reformatory,	9 boys	
	Discharged, conduct unsatisfactory,	13	
	Ceased to visit, conduct unsatisfactory,	18	43
			111
III.	CONDUCT GOOD.		
	Adopted,	9	
	Married,	14	
	Discharged, conduct satisfactory,	115	
	Ceased to visit, conduct satisfactory,	22	160
			271

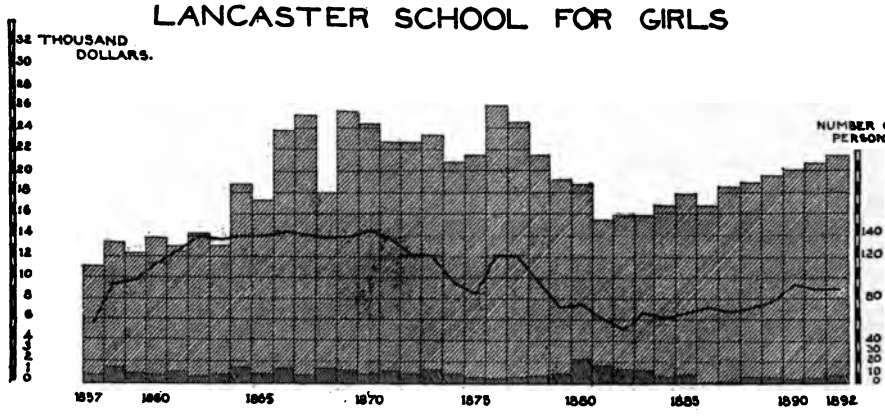
COST OF MAINTAINING THE STATE PRIMARY AND REFORM SCHOOLS AND THE BOSTON HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOL.



INDICATES NET EXPENSES.
INDICATES INCOME.
THE HEAVY LINE INDICATES THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.
THE SCALES ON THE LEFT MEASURE THE NET EXPENSES AND INCOME IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.
THE SCALES ON THE RIGHT MEASURE THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.

LANCASTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



INDICATES NET EXPENSES

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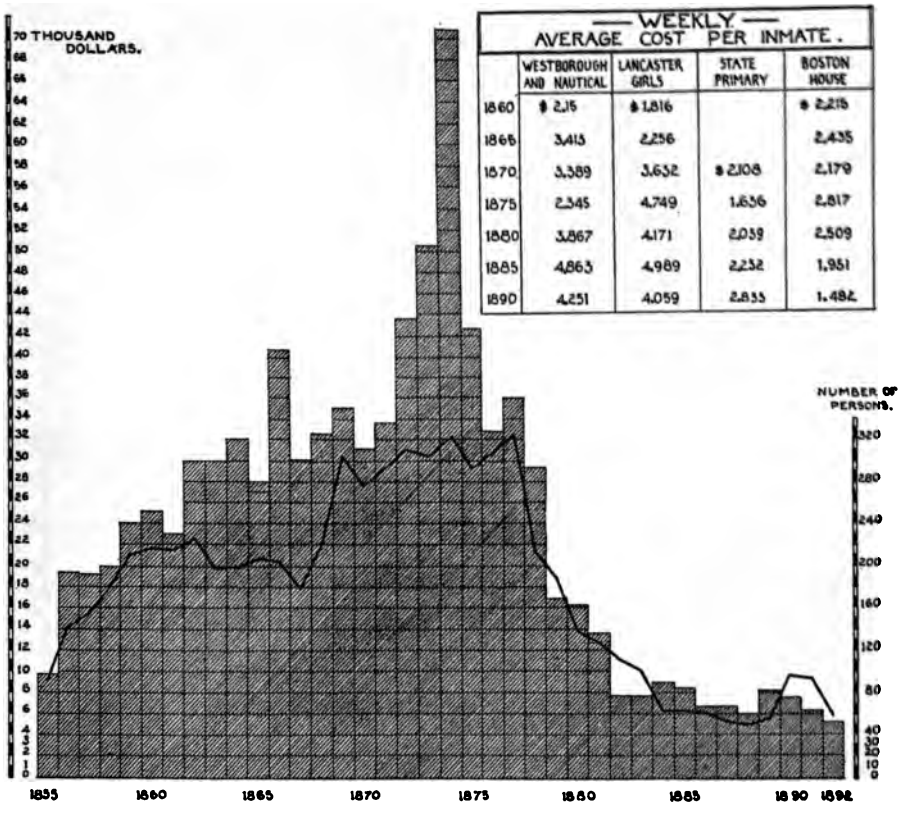
THE HEAVY LINE INDICATES THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.

THE SCALES ON THE LEFT MEASURE THE NET EXPENSES AND INCOME IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.

THE SCALES ON THE RIGHT MEASURE THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.

BOSTON HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

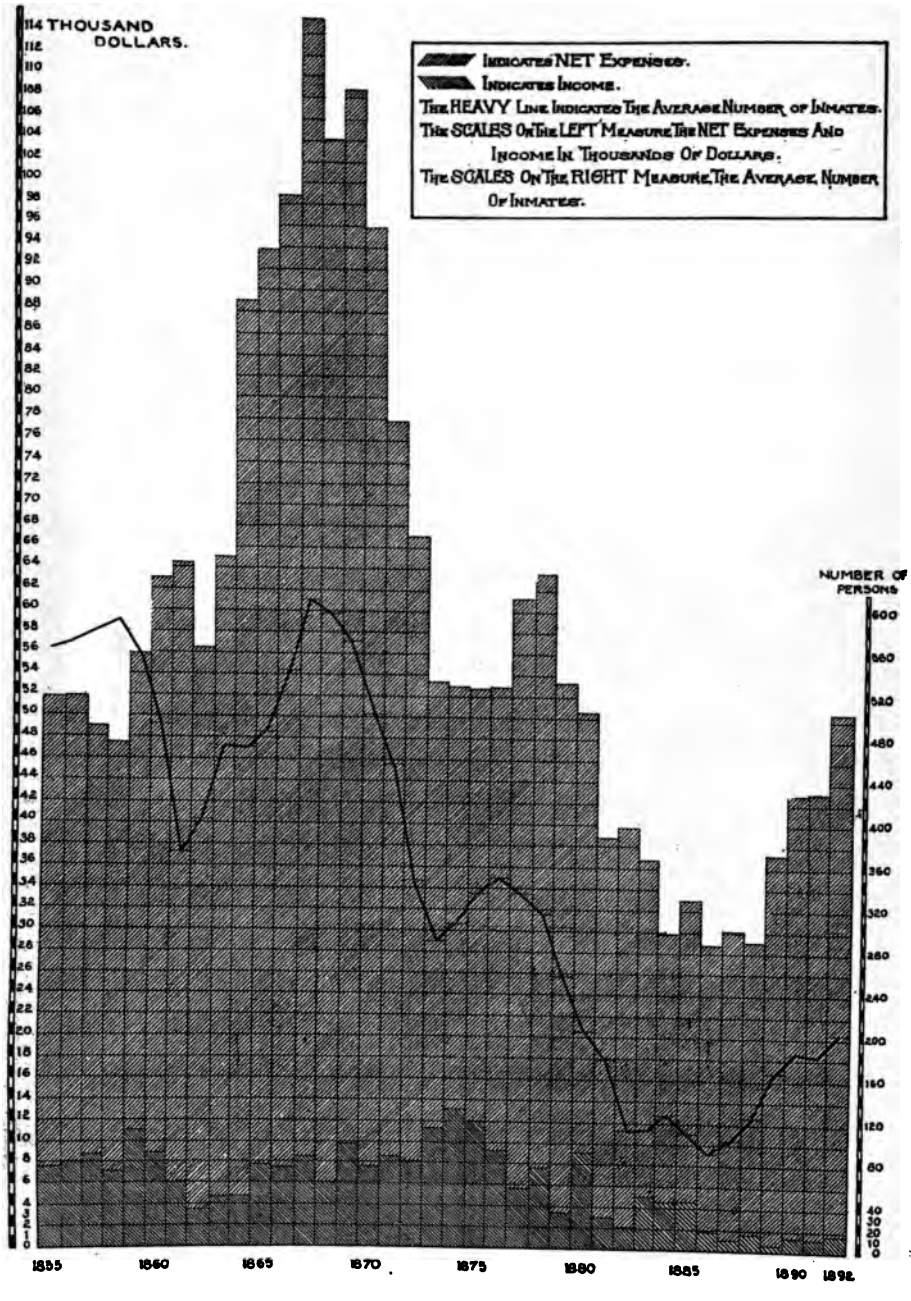


— WEEKLY —
AVERAGE COST PER INMATE.

	WESTBOROUGH AND NAUTICAL	LANCASTER GIRLS	STATE PRIMARY	BOSTON HOUSE
1860	$ 2.15	$ 1.816		$ 2.215
1865	3.415	2.256		2.435
1870	3.389	3.632	$ 2.108	2.179
1875	2.345	4.749	1.636	2.817
1880	3.867	4.171	2.039	2.509
1885	4.863	4.989	2.232	1.951
1890	4.251	4.059	2.835	1.482

INDICATES NET EXPENSES.
INDICATES INCOME.
THE HEAVY LINE INDICATES THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.
THE SCALES ON THE LEFT MEASURE THE NET EXPENSES AND INCOME IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.
THE SCALES ON THE RIGHT MEASURE THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES.

WESTBOROUGH AND NAUTICAL SCHOOLS FOR BOYS.



Fluctuations in numbers in the schools are due to several causes, including the varying reputation of schools among the judges placing and boarding out, and the establishment of the Women's Reformatory Prison on Oct. 30, 1877, and the Massachusetts Reformatory for Men in 1884.

LYMAN SCHOOL.

1854. Congregate age of commitment, 7–16.
1859. Three cottages built. Age of commitment, 7-14.
1860. Schoolship abolished for older boys.
1872. Schoolship abolished. Age of commitment, 7–17. Average age for commitment raised from 11 years 6 months to 13 years 8 months. Average time of detention decreased from about 3 years to about 1 year ten months.
1877. Additions to the large building completed. Average age of commitment, 14 years 4 mos. Length of detention increased.
1884. Massachusetts Reformatory started. Age of commitment, 7–15.
1885. Congregate system abandoned for cottage system on a new farm.
1887. Much work on industries bearing income gives place to modern methods of teaching, including clay work, drawing, sloyd, study of plants, etc.

From 1876–80 school mostly on congregate plan. The numbers in the school decreased from 348 to 206. The gross weekly per capita cost averaged $3.82. From 1888–92 wholly cottage plan. Age reduced from 17 to 15 years. Numbers increased from 127 to 203. Weekly gross per capita cost, $4.56.

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The increase in boarding and placing out has had especially marked effect on this school, amounting in the year 1892 to 140 per cent. of the average population of the school. The cost of new clothing, and the result in having much smaller numbers in the school than it was originally intended for, account for the increased average cost.

LANCASTER SCHOOL.

The increase in per capita cost can be traced very directly in the above chart to the decreasing numbers in the school, especially in 1874 The increased cost since 1884 is largely due, as in the case of the Lyman School, to better instruction.

The Reformatory Prison for Women was opened in 1877, and on Sept. 30, 1890, contained 70 women below the age of 21.

The increase in per capita cost is due, briefly, to a change from methods whose chief merit was economy to methods more in the interest of the pupils. The principal changes of this sort have been: —

1. From the congregate to the cottage plan.
2. From keeping the children in the institution to paying more attention to placing them out in homes and introducing the system of boarding them out in homes, 1882.

3. There has been, especially since 1886, more and better teaching and less work at profitable industries.

The increase in per capita expense arising from boarding and placing out is due, *first*, to the fact that each child on leaving the school is supplied with a suit of clothes sufficiently good to enable him to take his place on equal terms with other children in the community; *secondly*, children leave the school at an earlier age and after a short apprenticeship at the industries which are carried on there; *thirdly*, there are fewer children in the school, and, as is well known, the smaller the number the higher the per capita cost, especially when the existing buildings are designed for the larger number, as is notably the case at the State Primary School.

After the starting of the Massachusetts Reformatory in 1884, the maximum age of commitment to the Westboro School for Boys was lowered in 1885 from 17 to 15 years.

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